

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, In 1975, The Sioux Empire Youth Symphony was organized by the South Dakota Symphony Orchestra Guild, and was initially funded by a federal grant with the specific purpose of involving young people in South Dakota's 1976 Bicentennial Celebration; and,

Whereas, In 1992, a second orchestra was established and the organization changed its name to the Sioux Empire Youth Symphonies (SEYS), and they also became a non-profit corporation; and,

Whereas, In 1993, the Preparatory Orchestra was formed, in 2001, the brass/wind ensemble was added, and the name of this organization was again changed to the current name of Sioux Empire Youth Orchestras (SEYO), growing into four different orchestras, as well as the wind/brass ensemble; and,

Whereas, SEYO has been an independent organization supported by its private benefactors, parents, and members with significant contributions also provided by Augustana College, University of Sioux Falls, Sioux Empire Arts Council, and the South Dakota Arts Council, to name a few, and a recent generous donation by Heartland Paper Company has allowed the first part-time staff person to be hired; and,

Whereas, The 2004-2005 season included performances at the Freeman Academy at Freeman, South Dakota, and the Millennium Stage at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts at Washington, DC, and future plans include an overseas tour; and,

Whereas, Musicians consist of elementary, middle school, and high school students from Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska, and Yankton, Mitchell, Brookings, and Sioux Falls, South Dakota, who are committed to Saturday morning practices at Augustana College; and,

Whereas, A 30th Anniversary will be celebrated at the first concert of the 2005-2006 season on Sunday, October 23, 2005, and it is fitting and proper for the Governor of the state of South Dakota to offer special thanks and recognition to the dedication of the many past and current conductors of the various orchestras and past and current SEYO Board of Directors:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim October 23, 2005, as

SIoux EMPIRE YOUTH ORCHESTRAS DAY

in South Dakota.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twenty-first Day of September in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Five.

M. Michael Rounds
M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:
Chris Nelson
Chris Nelson, Secretary of State